

SENATE BILL 671

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1; Title 49, Chapter 2 and Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to career readiness assessments.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-6001, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection (c) and redesignating the existing subsection (c) and all subsequent subsections accordingly:

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b)(1), a public school student may take:

(1) An examination at grade eleven (11) to assess the student's career readiness in lieu of the postsecondary readiness examination required under subdivision (b)(1); and

(2) More than one (1) examination to assess the student's career readiness under this subsection (c), if the examinations, when successfully taken together, result in the student obtaining an evidence-based credential, such as the ACT WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) examinations.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-228(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (3) and substituting instead the following:

Other outcome indicators of student achievement that the department finds to be reliable measures of school performance. Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, the other outcome indicators must include student achievement on examinations administered to assess career readiness under § 49-6-6001.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-2-303(a)(1), is amended by deleting the language:

Other standards that may be considered in the evaluation shall include, but not be limited to, other benchmarks for student proficiency, graduation rates, ACT scores where applicable and student attendance.

and substituting instead the language:

Other standards that may be considered in the evaluation must include, but are not limited to, other benchmarks for student proficiency, graduation rates, scores on the postsecondary readiness assessment and examinations administered to assess career readiness under § 49-6-6001, and student attendance.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to the 2019-2020 school year and each school year thereafter.